

The Limbauah Letter



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO PUNISHMENT?

The Limbaugh Letter

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COVER PHOTO OF RUSH LIMBAUGH
BY KIMBERLY BUTLER.

Dedicated to Preserving My Wisdom for the Ages

Greetings

From high atop the EIB building

WELCOME, ONCE AGAIN, FELLOW analysts, to my monthly reality check — a supplement to the daily insights you receive from my radio and TV programs. My theme this month is one that touches all Americans most deeply. No, not health care. Not endangered species. It is crime. This is what people of every race, economic level and geographic area in this nation are concerned



most about. And citizens are correct: because crime can destroy us. And I prove my case beyond dispute that there is an answer to crime, a simple and yet profound response: punishment. I am particularly proud of my interview with Chief Reuben Greenberg, who runs the police department in Charleston, S.C. If cities large and small across the fruited plain would emulate this man's record, I guarantee we'd see a vast decrease in crime nationally. Greenberg pulls no punches, and has called the left's love of criminal "rehabilitation" what it is: bull. Don't miss the veritable feast of essential information here that you need to combat the deceit of liberalism. Now, get to it. ■

"Dittos, Rush"

From across the fruited plain

I am a nineteen-year-old student at Manchester College in Indiana. After reading three issues of **The Limbaugh Letter** and seeing all the notes to you, I am writing to thank you for saving me from liberalism. Last year, I listened to President Clinton's speeches and thought I agreed with him. I was doing fairly well in school, but I was bored with everything. Then I picked up a copy of *The Way Things Ought to Be*, and I awoke from my leftist coma. It picked up my spirits and gave me something to fight for: my freedom from government regulation, political correctness, and leftism running rampant on campus. You gave me ammunition to fight with and fuel for the fire. I have met great opposition when I attempt to watch your TV show in the dormitory lounge. No liberal in his right mind wants to hear you. They are scared that you are right, and with good reason. You are. Thanks again for all you have done for me.

— MICHAEL J. DIERDORF, CARMEL, IN

Happy to hear from you, Michael — I have no doubt that by casting off the shackles of liberalism you will achieve great success in school and in life.

Konnichiwa from a dittohead in Japan! I am lucky to have folks in the States tape your show religiously every night for me. There are more dittoheads in Japan than you realize — I see them reading **The Limbaugh Letter** in the subways of Nagoya. So I, too, would like to subscribe. — JULIE KUNITADA, CHIYOGAOKA, JAPAN
Konnichiwa and welcome to the fold. I am delighted you are part of my international readership.

I received your newsletter as a gift from my parents. A high school freshman and a conservative, I see it as my responsibility to persuade any liberals, faculty or student, to see the light of truth. When I received my first issue, I proudly displayed it in class. The teacher literally screamed at the sight of you on the cover of your January issue, grinning and holding a cigar. She'll come around. By the time I graduate, she'll be praising the eighties and renewing her subscription to the greatest publication of all time, **The Limbaugh Letter**. — JOHN D. BAUER, MILWAUKEE, WI
John, your optimism and enthusiasm provide more proof: we are winning!

As a dittohead in liberal Minnesota, I searched high and low for a sample copy of **The Limbaugh Letter**. I wanted to preview it, then subscribe. No copies were to be found. Imagine my surprise when I found your letter while on vacation in the Dominican Republic. My two brothers took me into the villages of the D.R., where I found a missionary reading your letter! Even the locals now enjoy it. And I just subscribed for two years.

— RICK NORELL, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Great photo, Rick — you have just proved how far-flung my wisdom is.



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO PUNISHMENT?

Several weeks ago I came across this headline in *The New York Times*: "TRADE CENTER BOMBERS GET PRISON TERMS OF 240 YEARS: Extraordinary Sentence Bars Parole Bids." The entire point of this front-page article in the August "newspaper record," was just how uncommon, rare, and unusual the sentence was. The author proceeded to exclaim, over and over, in awed terms, that these four convicted killers would actually be required to stay in jail for the rest of their days. "In handing down sentences of 240 years," noted the reporter, "the judge clearly wanted to insure that the men — three in their 20s and one in his 30s — would remain in prison for life."

What a concept.

But then, of course, there was this little escape clause: "The sentence means that *unless the rules of the court change or the verdicts are reversed on appeal, there is virtually no chance that any of them will ever spend another day free*" (emphasis mine). In other words, hey, this is America. They might *still* get out — even with 240-year prison terms.

The ordinary American citizen knows full well that what he or she finds an uncomplicated notion — that bad guys should be locked up — is actually *controversial* to the legions of academics, social scientists, and legislators whose compassionate sensibilities have been determining policy for over thirty years. "Oh, it's not as simple as that," say the experts. This is a message given, always, with enormous condescension. These are educated people — educated, that is, in the dogma of liberalism, and their education requires them to dismiss the plain and obvious truths that ordinary folks know in their marrow from their direct experience.

I remember vividly a few years ago I saw a TV news clip of a woman protesting the imminent release into her community of a man convicted of molesting children over a period of decades. "But he's served his time, Ma'am, and the criminal justice system has determined that he should be released," scolded the journalist. "Do you really think he should be kept in prison?"

The citizen looked at the reporter as if the question were from Mars: "Of course." That was all she said. But the reporter was momentarily stunned by the vehemence of her answer, and the clarity of her belief.

That little exchange exemplifies the enormous disconnect between the elites in this country and the rest of us on essential ideas such as good and evil, human nature,

and the maintenance of civilization itself. And it is the elites who have inflicted on the rest of us the most destructive policies in history. They have been dead wrong — and have been proven dead wrong — in every single prescription they have devised. Yet they expect us to deny the obvious along with them, and to continue to accept even more of the clichéd nostrums that have produced nothing but blood and ruin on our streets.

So this is where we are. The rate of violent crime in America is now worse than in any other industrialized country on earth. Between 1960 and 1990, says the FBI, violent crimes in America increased by 500 percent, and total crimes rose by more than 300 percent. In 1960, there were 190 property and violent crimes per 100,000 people; there were 400 in 1970; in the 1990s there have been about 600 such crimes per 100,000 people.

Are you beginning to see a trend here, folks? To bring these statistics home: thanks to the profoundly enlightened policies that have been advocated by the left for a generation, you are now *three times* more likely to be murdered, raped or robbed than you were 30 years ago.

Crime	Expected Time in Prison
Murder	1.8 years
Rape	60 days
Robbery	23 days
Arson	12.5 days
Aggravated Assault	6.4 days
Burglary	5.4 days
Motor Vehicle Theft	3.8 days
Larceny-Theft	2.2 days

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS



ILLUSTRATION BY CLYDE WELLS

Every year, according to the National Crime Survey by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nearly 5 million Americans are victims of violent crimes — murder, rape, robbery or assault. Another 19 million are victims of property crimes — arson, burglary and larceny-theft. Poll after poll shows that Americans of every race, class and geographic area are most concerned with one thing: crime. People are scared. Open any newspaper, and you will find grim reports of the most heinous acts committed in every community by apparently soulless people who display absolutely no regard for life, and absolutely no fear. And criminals are correct: there is little to fear.

According to a stunning report by the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas, expected punishment — that is,

continued

the probability of being arrested, convicted, prosecuted, and imprisoned — for crime in this country is almost nil. The expected punishment for *murder*, for example, is — get this — *1.8 years in prison*. For rape it is 60 days, for robbery 23 days and for aggravated assault 6.4 days. Overall, expected punishment for all serious crimes, then, averages out to: *8 days in prison*.

This, my friends, is laughable. Make no mistake: the criminals *are* laughing — at a society so unwilling to stop them. Those who have chosen to follow what is absurdly called a “criminal lifestyle” do not fear God, they do not fear the law, and they certainly do not fear us.

Those on the left claim we already lock up more people than ever. Yes, the U.S. has about 1.4 million people behind bars — the highest percentage of its population of any nation in the industrialized world. See? Putting people in prison isn’t the answer, say liberals.

They are mistaken. Imprisonment cannot be blamed. The evidence shows that over the last thirty years, it has barely been tried. According to John Dilulio, Jr., a professor at Princeton University and a fellow in governmental studies at the Brookings Institution, the probability that a violent criminal will go to prison and serve most of his time behind bars in the U.S. is today only about one-fifth what it was in the early 1960s. The turnstile justice system we have may incarcerate some, but not for long, and certainly not for good.

The public — and the criminal — is well aware that a sentence handed down by a judge in court bears little resemblance to what actually happens to the felon. Sure, he may “get” ten years. But he serves, maybe, four. Dilulio reports that most convicted criminals spend only about *one-third* of their sentences in prison. Three of every four convicted criminals are on the streets. Oh, yes, they are on probation or under parole supervision. Feel better?

There are thousands of bad guys out there, having proved themselves a danger to society, who’ve committed crimes so despicable that they were told years of freedom would be snatched from them — and yet they are free. So what do they do? Commit more crimes. A 1993 Bureau of

Justice Statistics study reported that 88 percent of inmates on parole or probation commit other, usually violent, offenses.

This is not rocket science. And here’s another statistic: only *seven percent* of the male prison population is responsible for *two-thirds* of all the nation’s violent crime. But the logic of keeping society permanently unavailable to that seven percent who have proven, over and over, their desire to harm the innocent appears to escape liberals.

Instead, we have been treated to a parade of people on the left blaming everything except the criminals. Crime, they believe instead, like all the problems tearing at the fabric of our society, is an indict-

ment of America. To address intolerable crime rates, they claim, we must first solve the “root causes” of social disintegration. These are the usual litany of liberalism’s bogeymen: poverty, racism, proliferation of guns, unequal distribution of wealth, capitalism, greed, the power of the military-industrial complex. And on and on.

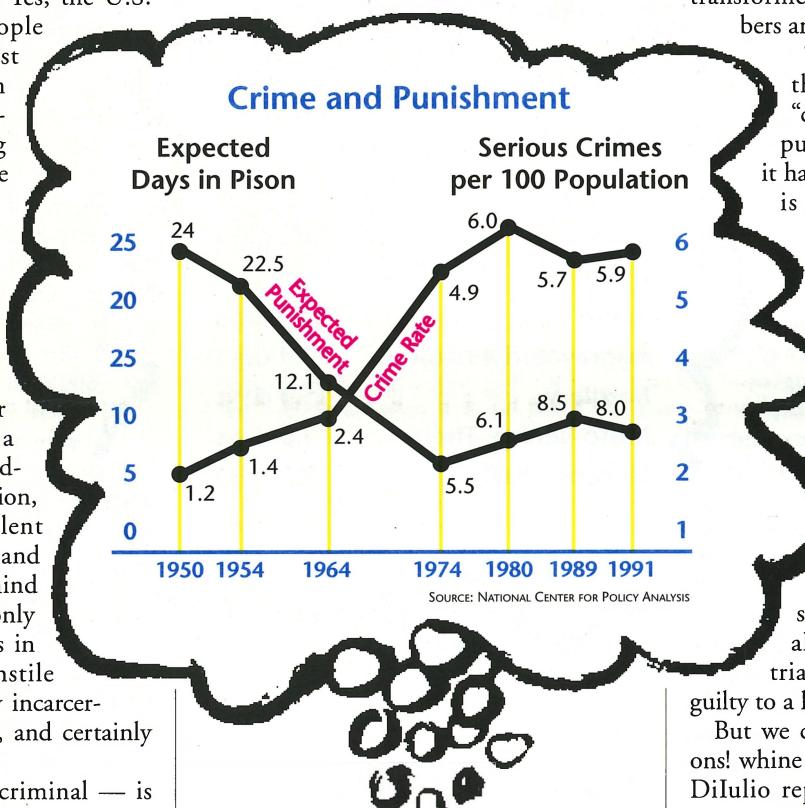
The solution? Basically, their solution comes down to social therapy. Criminals only act that way because they are victims. They are abused, afflicted, at-risk, disadvantaged. The left truly believes that a bad guy isn’t really bad; he would be a perfectly decent, sweet, friendly fellow if only he hadn’t been treated so shabbily by the rest of us. Given jobs, and an end to poverty, racism, etc., criminals would be magically transformed into corporate board members and philanthropists.

This is the brilliant thinking that insists on calling prisons “correctional institutions” whose purpose is to “rehabilitate.” And it has brought us a country where it is perfectly normal to be shot while walking down the street or standing behind a counter selling groceries. “The justice system is a revolving door for convicted predatory street criminals,” says Dilulio, “the vast majority of whom enter the system by plea-bargaining, exit it before serving even half of their time in confinement and make a cruel joke out of the terms of their ‘community-based supervision.’” Ninety percent of all criminal cases do not go to trial because the offender pleads guilty to a lesser charge.

But we can’t afford to build more prisons! whine liberals. We can’t afford not to. Dilulio reports his study with Harvard economist Ann Piehl, published in *The Brookings Review*, that showed on average, it costs society twice as much to let a criminal roam the streets as it does to keep him behind bars. Yes, the cost of imprisoning criminals is \$25,000 a year. But, says Dilulio, the price to society for every murder is \$2.4 million. The total cost of crime, according to a recent *Business Week* study, is \$425 billion a year. And that does not measure the cost in a society’s lost faith, confidence, and freedom.

Ordinary people know what must be done. The overwhelming majority of Americans of every ethnic background

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY CLYDE WELLS

WHO IS THIS THUG?

The Limbaugh Profile

The case of Richard Allen Davis is classic. This is a guy who, as is obvious to any intelligent reader, has been dangerous all his adult life. Yet despite the fact that he constantly, consistently and flagrantly disobeyed the law, he was always let out to do it again. This is the stupidity that defines, for many, the American criminal justice system. It defies common sense, and has yet become so commonplace that ordinary citizens are no longer shocked when they hear such stories.

After dealing with him for years, court psychiatrists concluded that Davis has a "sociopathic personality." What this means, friends, is that Davis is a bad guy. He likes to hurt people. He has no conscience. And he has no fear of punishment — an attitude that was completely justified by his experience. Because no matter what he did, he was repeatedly released from custody.

Davis was a virtuoso at playing the system. He would regularly plead guilty to one charge in exchange for other charges — often sex offenses — being dropped. He did not receive his first state prison term until August 1975, after at least a dozen arrests. "Because of the obvious threat to the community, it is believed there is no alternative but imprisonment. He has proven that he cannot function adequately outside of prison," said a probation officer in 1977. Yet Davis was not kept in prison. So that on October 1, 1993, police charge, he broke into the home of 12-year-old Polly Klaas, abducted her at knifepoint from her own bedroom, and murdered her.

Let's take a look, shall we, at highlights from Richard Allen Davis's adult criminal record:

FEB. 12, 1973: Arrested in Redwood City, Calif. for drunkenness and obstructing a police officer. Fined \$25 and placed on one-year probation.

APRIL 21, 1973: Arrested in Redwood City for burglary and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Placed on probation.

OCT. 25, 1973: Arrested in Redwood City for auto theft. Case dismissed.

OCT. 26, 1973: Arrested in Redwood City for burglary. Pleaded guilty and received six months in jail and probation.

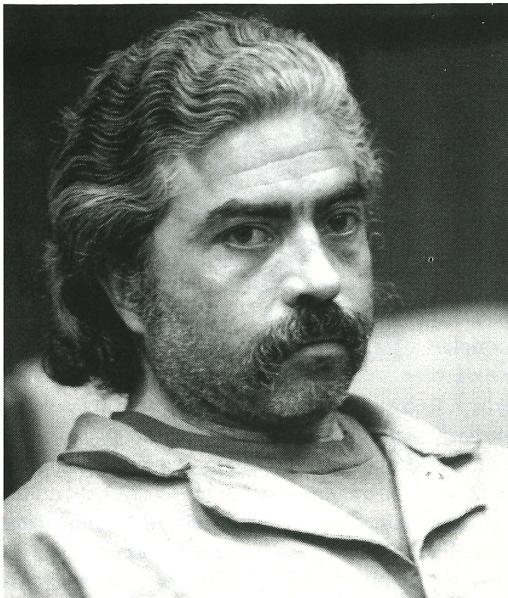
MAY 13, 1974: Arrested in South San Francisco for burglary. Received suspended prison sentence and probation.

JUNE 17, 1974: Arrested for burglary. Committed for psychiatric evaluation.

SEPT. 10, 1974: Arrested in Redwood City for a probation violation involving possession of a dangerous weapon.

SEPT. 16, 1974: Given three years probation and six-year suspended prison sentence for probation violation and burglary.

MARCH 5, 1975: Arrested in San Francisco on burglary charge.



MARCH 15, 1975: Arrested in Redwood City for jail escape and burglary.

APRIL 7, 1975: Fined \$500; probation extended to 1978 for burglary and probation violations.

APRIL 11, 1975: Arrested in Redwood City for probation violation. Admitted to hospital for mental evaluation; walked away.

MAY 5, 1975: Walked away from anti-drug program where he had been admitted for treatment two weeks earlier.

JULY 11, 1975: Arrested in Madera County for vehicle tampering and marijuana possession. Case dismissed.

AUG. 2, 1975: Arrested in S. San Francisco for burglary, probation violation.

AUG. 13, 1975: Probation revoked. Sentenced to state prison for six months to 15 years.

AUG. 2, 1976: Released from state prison after serving less than a year.

SEPT. 24, 1976: Arrested in Hayward, Calif. for robbery, kidnaping and attempted oral copulation. Sent to Napa State Hospital after jail suicide attempt.

Walked out ten days later.

DEC. 22, 1976: Arrested for crimes in Napa following hospital escape, including attempted kidnaping, robbery, assault, burglary.

JUNE 1, 1977: Sentenced to one to 25 years in prison.

JUNE 28, 1977: Received concurrent sentence of six months to 10 years in prison.

MAY 5, 1978: Received concurrent sentence of six months to life.

MARCH 3, 1982: Released on automatic parole after California Legislature changed sentencing law. Terms were recalculated to a total of six years. Served less than five.

MARCH 26, 1983: Arrested in San Rafael for burglary, petty theft and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Not prosecuted.

OCT. 12, 1983: Arrested in Modesto for showing false identification to a police officer. District attorney declined to prosecute.

SEPT. 2, 1984: Warrant issued in Redwood City charging felon in possession of a dangerous weapon.

NOV. 30, 1984: Kidnaped, assaulted and robbed woman in Redwood City.

MARCH 7, 1985: Attempted armed robbery in Stanislaus County. Later sentenced to three years in state prison.

JULY 30, 1985: Sentenced to 16 years in prison for the Redwood City kidnaping. With time off for good behavior, released after eight years.

JUNE 27, 1993: Paroled to San Mateo County.

OCT. 1, 1993: Allegedly kidnaped 12-year-old Polly Klaas from her home in Petaluma, Calif. Arrested two months later on parole violation. Confessed to the kidnaping and murder and, according to the FBI, directed authorities to Polly's body.

SOURCE: LOS ANGELES TIMES

Reuben Greenberg

Friends, the police chief of Charleston, S.C. has accomplished remarkable things for his city. And he's done so by refusing to let the obstacles placed upon police departments everywhere prevent him from thwarting crime:

Greenberg: I listen to you every day — even the reruns! By the way, congratulations on your recent marriage.

Rush: Thank you very much, sir. It's an honor to talk to you, because you are actually in the streets trying to implement solutions. You have become known for a no-nonsense approach to law and order. And you are properly credited with "cleaning up" Charleston. Reported crimes in your city have fallen 40 percent. How have you done that, and is it transferrable to other American cities?

Greenberg: It's transferrable. In fact, other cities have picked up parts of our program.

Rush: Greatness in many ways is tied not to a plan, but to a person. Obviously your personality is highly involved in this. So tie your personality in to how you've approached the job — with the specifics of what you've done.

Greenberg: Well, I'm a little bit impatient. I got tired of going back and forth, back and forth, arresting a guy at six p.m. for drugs, and by nine p.m. he's bonded out and selling again.

We realized in the case of street-level drug dealing, for example, that the way to have an impact was to destroy the business. Of course we arrest them, but the real thing is to reduce their profits. If you reduce profitability, they'll go out of business in much the same way that Eastern Airlines did — they're not making enough to make it worthwhile.

Rush: Somebody might interpret that to mean you're favoring legalizing drugs.

Greenberg: No, no! Not favoring legalizing drugs at all. We're simply saying, if you create an environment in which they can't make money, they'll do something else.

Rush: How do you do that?

Greenberg: Street-level drug dealing requires high volume. You don't have \$5,000 deals or even \$500 deals. The deals are \$30, \$40, \$50. So if you can reduce the volume, people quit the business. We got as many as 35 percent of the dealers to stop selling — without going to jail. They stopped simply because they couldn't make enough money.

Rush: But how did you successfully interdict the supply?

Greenberg: We put a police officer *with* the dealer. Wherever he went, that's where we went.

Rush: So you knew who they were.



Greenberg: Sure, we all know who they are! Every police department knows who they are. It's the same guys over and over.

Rush: Where did you come up with the officers? That's a lot of manpower.

Greenberg: We had 31 locations in Charleston. We didn't have 31 officers to assign — we had five. So we went to five locations. After three weeks, we then used those five officers in seven locations. Finally we ended up using the five officers in as many as 13 locations. As people went out of business, the officer could concentrate elsewhere, keeping an eye a few hours a week on the old place, to make sure it didn't start up again.

Rush: Are these officers arresting these guys as they make the deals, or are they stopping the trade just by virtue of their presence?

Greenberg: By virtue of their presence.

Rush: Why doesn't the dealer just shoot your cops?

Greenberg: If he shoots a cop, there will be ten cops there the next night. There's going to be more heat than there ever was. So he's not going to control the situation that way.

Rush: So what happens to these guys whose business gets taken away by your department?

Greenberg: They go on to something else. And not because they got arrested — if that was the solution, drugs would be solved by now. But they stopped selling because they weren't making enough money to make it worthwhile. You reduce the volume — you'll never get it down to zero, but if you can take 20, 25 percent of the business away, that's where their profit is. Even though they are able to sell 75 percent as much as they did before, they can't cover their costs.

Rush: Correct me if I'm wrong, but readers may be assuming that you have written off punishment?

Greenberg: No! We certainly haven't written off punishment. The problem is, we, the police, don't have any *control* over punishment. We arrest the drug dealers, and the courts take them through whatever machinations they wish —

Rush: Then they're back out.

Greenberg: Right. Obviously, some of them will wind up in jail. But it takes a long time. If you want an immediate impact, shadow the dealers.

Rush: Law-abiding citizens think there's not enough punishment. So you've simply taken the definition of punishment, reworked it, and said: "I'm going to punish these guys by putting them out of business."

Greenberg: Exactly. And 35 percent success may not sound like a great deal. But there's little else in the criminal justice system working as well. We eliminate 35 percent of the problem without overcrowding jails, without court costs. What we do is we stand there on the corner with them. We stand in front of the crack house. Which means they are out of business. That approach has been remarkably effective.

With respect to juveniles, we've looked at some old-fashioned things. Come to our city and from 8 in the morning until 2:30 in the afternoon, you can't find a single kid out of school. No kids walking the street, at the mall, riding around on bicycles or driving their cars. Because we decided to go back to something that worked for 50 years in this country: the truant officer concept. New York City had them, and they had them in places as small as Buffalo Breath, Montana. Why isn't there a truant offi-

cer program now? Well, people gained control of our educational system in the late 1960s who said, "We don't need anything as punitive as a truant officer to make kids go to school."

Rush: Why humiliate them?

Greenberg: Exactly. "We're going to create a curriculum that is so wonderful, so exciting, so dynamic, so interesting that the kids will *want* to come to school. The janitors will have to step over the kids on the sidewalk in the morning, because so many will be gathered by the door trying to get in. In the afternoons the bus drivers will be honking their horns, trying to get the kids out of the library so they can take them home." But nobody bothered to ask the kids, Would you rather hang out at the mall, or would you rather go to Algebra?

Rush: But as the Chief of Police, you don't have any influence over the curriculum.

Greenberg: Right. But we do have influence over the kids. Every state has truancy laws. So we no longer pass kids on the street, 11, 13, 15 years old and think, "Boy, I wonder why these kids aren't in school." We started asking them: "Why are you not in school?" They'd give some lame-brained excuse; we picked them up, put them in the car, and took them back to their schools, just like we did for fifty years in this country. And the kids figured it out very quickly. That's what's so wonderful about the truancy laws — whether they're "doing anything" or not, if they're out of school, that's all the probable cause you need. You're not arresting them; you're taking them back to their teachers.

Rush: Do you have any activists in town opposing this?

Greenberg: Sure, we've got 'em. But there's nothing they can do about this. It's an old law; there's plenty of case history on it.

Rush: But Chief, this is my point. Most people are intimidated by these activists, and they're ruling the roost.

Greenberg: We're not intimidated. That's why we went back to things that had already been tested in court, with numerous precedents already set. There's a compelling state interest in having kids go to school. If they're out on the streets during school hours if they're between the ages of 6 and 17, that's technically a violation of the law.

Rush: That's age discrimination.

Greenberg: Call it anything you want. But after we started this program, our daytime crime rate went down 27 percent. That's without arresting anybody, without hiring any more police officers, without working overtime. In addition, a surprising, serendipitous thing happened. Kids were also not victimized. Not only weren't they perpetrators of crime — shoplifting, purse-snatching, stealing cars, breaking into automobiles during the daytime — they also weren't victims of drive-by shootings or other crimes, simply because they weren't there.

We were paying for everything already. The school bus program, paid for. The school lunch program, paid for. School breakfast program, paid for. The tables, chairs, books, teachers, everything was paid for, everything was already there. The empty chairs were there — all we had to do was pick the kid off the streets, put him in that chair, incurring no other costs whatsoever. We only had four officers to do this. But it's so effective that probably we'll drop it down to two officers, because there aren't enough kids out there now to make it worthwhile for four guys.

Rush: Congratulations! That's great. Now did you run into people who said, "Chief Greenberg, you are trying to impose your view of society on our community, and we don't want that?"

Greenberg: Yeah, we had those people. But we said, "We're enforcing state law." Take another example. Late at night, we pick up every kid. On sight. After midnight, we take every kid back to his parents. No exceptions. Tall, short, fat, skinny, black, white, male, female. You can pick them up off the street. Everyone knows there is no Constitutional right for a 4-year-old to be walking the streets. It turns out there is no Constitutional right for a 17-year-old to walk the street after midnight either.

Rush: I just read that a lot of cities are imposing curfews now.

Greenberg: But we don't have a curfew. This is the wonderful thing. Because if you don't have a curfew, you can't have the civil liberties groups sue you. We're acting under the legal doctrine of *in loco parentis*, where the police act "in the place of the parent." These are not arrests. We're returning these kids to their parents.

Rush: Are their parents happy to see them?

Greenberg: In hundreds of cases, yes. I think we've logged ten cases where the parents didn't want to see them. In the truancy program, those who didn't want to see the kids brought back to school were some of the administrators. Last thing in the world the principal wanted to see was that Smith kid again.

Rush: Troublemaker.

Greenberg: Yeah, but he wanted to be principal of that school. He wrote dissertations, got degrees and letters of recommendation, everything he could to get that job. Well, he was successful in getting it. So now he's got to take the good with the bad. He's got to deal with the problematic kids, because they're *not* going to be out on the street.

Rush: You had to overcome a lot of obstacles when you moved to Charleston, and one of them, I think the most difficult, was the so-called "black leadership" in town. What did you do to overcome that?

Greenberg: I think we've gotten those persons won over. They weren't accustomed to a black conservative. This was something new. You know, the root causes of crime were supposed to be poverty, unemployment, a poor education, this, that, and the other. Yet 90 percent of the people with those same characteristics, both blacks and whites, somehow never wound up in the criminal justice system. So I started orienting ourselves toward the protection of those who follow the rules and regulations of our society, rather than those who would victimize other people in the community. It's not an excuse to say, "Well, I came from the wrong side of the town, and I'm black, and my great-grandfather was owned by this person." Yeah, that's true, but these other guys had great-grandfathers who were owned by this person as well, but they aren't criminals. They're out working and paying taxes.

Rush: That's one of the building blocks of the liberal black leadership in this country, and I can't imagine that they took kindly to your assault on their foundation.

Greenberg: Well, they didn't, and my boss caught lots of heat: "Where in the world did you find this guy?" But a mayor has got to provide a product. And one of the products is protection for people on the street. That was our initial goal, to make it safe for people to walk the street, at least in the daytime. We didn't even have that in Charleston. But we were able to do it, and then follow that on into the night hours. Our crime rate now in some categories is lower than it was in the 1960s. And the city's population is 38 percent greater than it was in the 1960s.

Rush: I can imagine — people moving in in droves.

Greenberg: People in the suburban areas have annexed into the city. They want to be part of Charleston. And the main reason is that the city

has a good police force. By the way, you don't have to be brutal. We've only fired our weapons twice in the last ten years. So you don't have to beat people up, you don't have to shoot people.

Rush: Wait, wait! Your entire department has only fired weapons twice?

Greenberg: We have 302 officers, and all of us combined have fired our weapons on only two occasions in the last ten years.

Rush: That is an amazing statistic.

Greenberg: A lot of people find it amazing because it's in a Deep South city with a large, poor black so-called underclass population. We're supposed to have bad relationships between the police and various groups. But we say it's not necessary to have bad relations.

Rush: So you don't shoot it out with the bad guys. How do you avoid that? This is interesting, because a lot of people bandy about the police brutality charge. Clearly your force cannot be accused of that. How do you manage to enforce the law without discharging your firearms?

Greenberg: We use very good training, and we look upon using our firearms, someone getting hurt or killed, as being a failed mission. We use strong backup. If an officer thinks he's going to have trouble making an arrest, he calls his backup ahead of time. The backup is there *before* the arrest is made. Thereby you increase the probability that the officers will prevail. You see, we are in the driver's seat. We don't have to make an arrest the instant we see a violation. We make that arrest when it benefits us the most. And it benefits us the most when our backup gets there.

Rush: You have detailed your philosophy in your book, *Let's Take Back Our Streets*. What has been the response among others in law enforcement?

Greenberg: Tremendous response. Plus incredulity.

Rush: I can understand that.

Greenberg: Every year 20 to 25 departments come to Charleston to take a look at what we're doing, and they manage to come up with all kinds of excuses why they can't do the same thing. "We've got unions, you don't have unions." Or, "You've got a big budget. Your city really supports the police. The people down there are different." The people here are no different than anyplace else; you've simply got to determine whether or not you put a high value on ordinary people being able to walk the streets in reasonable safety.

Rush: The people who play by the rules.

Greenberg: Exactly. People get killed here, just like in any other city, but not nearly as many. People get raped here, but not nearly as many. Matter of fact, our homicide rate is 30 percent less now than in the 60s.

Rush: Do you show a constant downward trend in the commission of major crimes?

Greenberg: We've had downward trends every year. And not just in per capita crime. In most years, we've had *numerical* decreases. The absolute number of homicides in the last ten years is lower than the decade of the 70s, and lower than the decade of the 60s. The absolute number of houses and businesses broken into is 2000 lower.

Rush: Amazing.

Greenberg: There were two years when the per capita was down but the absolute number was up, because we gained 10,000 people annexed into the city from the suburbs who wanted to be part of the city.

Rush: Yeah, you've gotta watch those people from the suburbs.

Greenberg: Right! But now, the absolute numbers are going back down. The thing is, you don't have to give up. There are already laws on the books that have worked for 50 years; you simply have to decide to enforce them. People tell me they're going to control gangs in their community, but yet they can't get 10 and 11 and 12-year-olds off the street, and back in the classroom. To me that's ridiculous.

Rush: What do you think of these gang summits?

Greenberg: You don't sit down with burglars and try to have a truce on burglary. You're putting these thugs on the same level as you would neighborhood people, as you would ministers in the community.

Rush: You're saying, "We're afraid of you, please don't hurt us."

Greenberg: Exactly. I'm not going to sit down with anyone for the purpose of agreeing to go soft on robbers, burglars and rapists.

Let me tell you another thing we do that's very inexpensive but effective. We decided to drive up to the parole board in Columbia, S.C., look them in the baby blues, and say: "We don't want that rapist, that armed robber, or that burglar, coming back to our community. We're asking you to deny him parole. Don't worry about jail overcrowding, because, well, where did he sleep last night? That's where he's going to sleep tonight." We give them all the details of their crimes. They show up with a social worker, and usually some religious affiliate they've come up with, so we bring with us the woman who was raped, the merchant who was pistol-whipped, the person whose house was broken into. We confront that parole board and say: "We don't want him in our community." We've been doing this for ten years, and 93 percent of the time, we win.

Rush: What about three strikes and you're out — do you like that legislation?

Greenberg: No. It requires too many victims up front. Strike one, rape victim number one. Strike two, rape victim number two. By strike three you're out, you've got three rape victims. Our approach is punish severely the first offender. The first time he does it, you nail him. With three strikes, everyone has three shots at the system. Give him one shot. I prefer the approach the Mafia takes. We aren't going to use their technique of killing people or knee-capping them, but they don't give three strikes.

Rush: Swift justice.

Greenberg: First time — you knew what the rules are — bingo. We can do this in one regard. The first time someone gets convicted, he does time. We now put people on probation, we do all sorts of things to divert them away from the jail cell

they're entitled to. See, three strikes is the wrong concept. You should look at each individual crime as one that should be punished in its own right. You don't give probation. The problem we have now is that probation is the most common sentence for a felony conviction in an American courtroom. People are actually spending less time in jail today than they were in the 1960s. People think that because we have jail overcrowding, criminals are spending more time in jail. The exact opposite is the case.

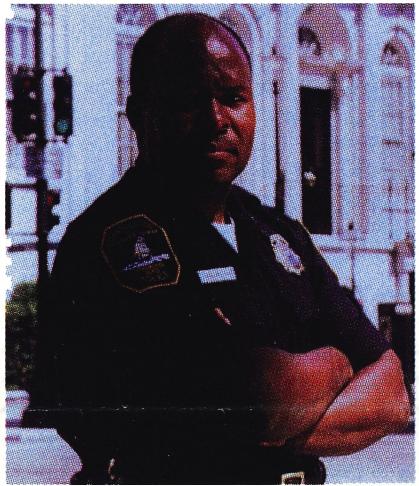
Rush: One of the things people in this country fear viscerally is walking the streets at night.

Greenberg: That's true. So we went after the people who were committing the crimes — irrespective of their race. We have a vastly disproportionate number of black perpetrators in the country; there's no point in trying to pretend it doesn't exist, everybody knows it exists. But there's something else that liberals tend to forget. We also have a vastly disproportionate number of black victims. So we went after protecting the victims. We're not perpetrator-oriented at all. We're victim-oriented. *Whomever* the perpetrators are, those are the people we're going to hunt down, arrest and present before the court. And *whomever* the victims are, those are the people we're going to do the utmost to protect. That's how we respond to the so-called liberal establishment.

Rush: Chief, I hope someday you run the FBI.

Greenberg: Well, I love municipal law enforcement. And there's a lot we can do. Don't simply assume that we can't based on what various activist groups say on TV. You can take back the streets of your city.

Rush: Chief, the problem is, there are not enough people like you in positions of authority. You're a real hero. You're not just talking it, you're actually implementing your beliefs. Congratulations, and keep it up. ■



LAWRENCE BERKOWITZ

The Homeless

IT'S NOT RONALD REAGAN'S FAULT.

That may send some of you liberals (you know who you are) into fits. But it is true. And now the truth has finally been documented in Christopher Jencks's remarkable new book about the homeless titled, as you might expect, *The Homeless* (Harvard Press, 1994). One by one, Jencks explodes the myths those on the left have long trumpeted.

THE NUMBERS. During the Carter years, "homeless activist" Mitch Snyder argued that nearly a million Americans were homeless. Once Ronald Reagan became President, Mitch's number suddenly jumped to three million. Liberals everywhere declared the sky was falling. They called Reagan heartless and cruel (and other things, but this is a family publication) for not allocating billions of dollars to solve the "homeless crisis."

Then the Department of Housing and Urban Development undertook a study. Their conclusion: only some 250,000 to 350,000 Americans were homeless. Journalists went ballistic, calling the study a sham and continuing to bemoan "America's three million homeless." But Jencks, professor of sociology at Northwestern University, concludes: "HUD's 1984 numbers were reasonably well documented, while Snyder's earlier numbers were not."

THE INCREASES. The numbers of *visible* homeless were increasing, says Jencks, from about 100,000 in 1980 to about 400,000 Americans by the decade's end. And in fact the number of people living in homeless shelters (a number most easily verified) rose by a factor of five between 1980 and 1990.

Why? Jencks explains that 3500 new shelters opened between 1984 and 1988. As new and better shelters became available, something very interesting happened. People who would otherwise have doubled up with friends or relatives in conventional housing — a private housing solution arrived at by millions of people through-

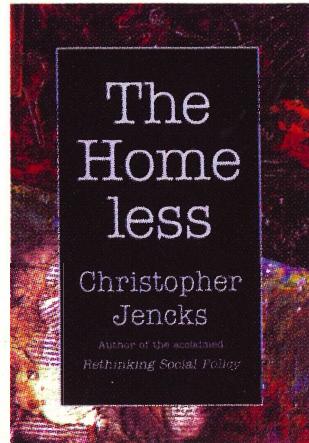
out history — moved into shelters. This is due to something unfamiliar to liberals, called human nature: when more of something free is offered, more people want it.

HOUSING, HOUSING, HOUSING. In his weaker moments, Jencks bemoans the lack of dirt cheap housing and wishes there was more. But at least he's honest about what happened. Flop-houses and single-room occupancy hotels

were regularly torn down in the 1960s and 1970s in order to make way for office buildings, shopping centers, and higher-rent apartment buildings which made a profit. Keeping dilapidated warehouses or flea-infested old hotels around — or building new ones — isn't cost effective. But blaming Reagan because middle-class residents wanted cleaner, safer urban areas is a typical liberal leap in logic. Besides, homelessness is not, as the left asserts, a simple lack of housing:

JUST LIKE YOU AND ME? Liberals claim we're all "just a paycheck away" from homelessness. Because of Reagan's budget cuts, they say, hundreds of thousands of ordinary people "just like you and me" were mercilessly dumped onto the streets. But Jencks devotes an entire chapter to "The Crack Epidemic" and points out that even if the homeless could find jobs, so many of them are alcoholics and crack addicts that they are certainly not about to set aside income for housing. Indeed, Jencks's research makes a strong case that substance abusers *become* homeless.

A case could be made that homelessness was exacerbated, not by Reagan, but by Congress and the courts. Congress created Supplemental Security Income in 1972. "Inmates of state mental hospitals became eligible for SSI as soon as they were discharged. That gave states a new financial incentive to move the mentally ill out of hospitals" for so-called out-patient treatment. Enter the Supreme Court. "In 1975, for example, the Court ruled in *O'Connor*



v. Donaldson that mental illness alone was not sufficient justification for involuntary commitment. By the end of the 1970s almost every state had made it impossible to lock up patients for more than a few days unless they posed a clear danger to themselves or others.... Once America restricted involuntary commitment, many seriously disturbed patients began leaving state hospitals even when they had nowhere else to live."

Big mistake! Between 1975 and 1991, for example, 32 individuals were arrested for trying to push strangers onto New York City subway tracks. Of those, 26 went into the state mental-health system. Six records were lost, thanks to the Cuomo bureaucracy, but we do know that 19 were diagnosed as psychotic. Guess what. All were eventually released. "That is presumably the reason," Jencks drily observes, why researchers found that "the risk of being pushed onto the subway tracks was three times as high in the 1980s as in the late 1970s."

As a result of the perverse incentives of the welfare state and an activist Supreme Court, many patients were released well before Reagan ever stepped foot in the White House, and scores of others who should either have been in mental hospitals or prisons weren't allowed to be put there at all.

Folks, let me be clear: I have never claimed homelessness isn't a sad existence. It is. I have never said that private organizations and religious groups shouldn't help those few hundred thousand people who obviously have reached bottom. They should. What I have said, and will keep on saying, is that homelessness is not a national crisis requiring billions of taxpayer dollars. And it was not caused by Ronald Reagan.

Thank you, Professor Jencks, for proving me right. ■

Many people say I need to be balanced with equal time. Not so — I AM...

Equal Time

A sampling of my genius, to be widely quoted and disseminated

TEED OFF

I want to praise our President for providing the leadership we need to solve an enormous danger facing our nation. The problem: Golf courses are environmental hazards. That's right, folks — according to *The Wall Street Journal*, environmental wackos are complaining that an environmental nightmare hides in the beautiful landscapes golfers love. The lethal truth is, to keep golf courses looking the way they do, maintenance crews must use pesticides and fertilizers!

"They nuke these things in order to get the grass looking really nice," says Blake Early of the Sierra Club.

So something called the Global Anti-Golf Movement, an international wacko group, met recently to call for a worldwide ban on golf-course

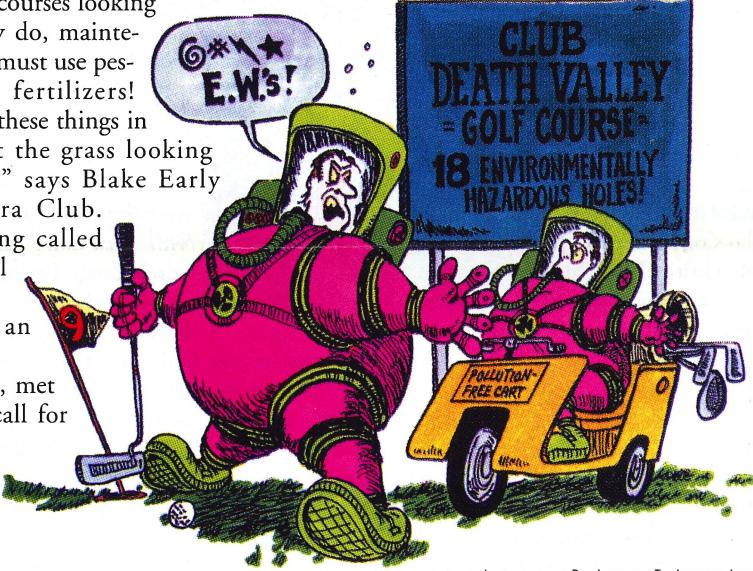


ILLUSTRATION BY BOB LANG FOR THE LIMBAUGH LETTER

IT'LL KILL YOU

A researcher recently warned that "trans-fats," a substance in margarine and other processed foods, could be killing 30,000 Americans each year. Besides that and golf courses, here is a sampling of other dangers we've been warned about this year:

- **Hot dogs**, which the *New York Daily News* health experts report are dangerous to children.

- **Softballs and baseballs**, also a threat to children. One study's authors recommend manufacturers produce "softer balls."

- **Popcorn popped in coconut oil**. Theaters have already suffered concession stand losses due to warnings from a wacko outfit claiming this movie staple

construction.

Here's a better idea. A simple, brilliant solution, given to us by President Clinton. The answer, my friends, is Astroturf. The same stuff in the back of his old El Camino pickup. Golf courses will be safe and green, and duffers can follow the President's splendid display of leadership by yelling at their golf balls: "Whoa, Mama! Stay up!"

MR. CLEAN

Folks, the tide may be turning in favor of Sen. Edward Kennedy. According to a UPI news story, after years of being perceived as a drinker and womanizer, the image of Ted Kennedy has dramatically improved. A year ago, Kennedy had only a 41 percent favorable rating, with 40 percent viewing him unfavorably. But a recent Boston Globe/WBZ poll shows that his favorable numbers are rising to the top — surfacing, if you will. Now 67 percent view him favorably, compared to 26 percent who do not. The pollsters say the turnaround can be directly attributed to Kennedy's marriage a year ago to Victoria Reggie, and to his self-proclaimed efforts to reform. The news isn't all good for Teddy, though. The same poll indicates that 44 percent said it was time for Kennedy to step aside. Only 47 percent thought he should get another term. Among the challengers for his seat this time is a woman, Janet Jeghelian, a Republican who says she will not back off of questions about Kennedy's character. Imagine — Kennedy running *against* a woman instead of *behind* one.

ME AND MRS. JONES

Sexual harassment has never been radical feminists' true agenda; their agenda is, rather, the destruction of certain men based on ideology. I said this during the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill hearings, and I'm saying it now — the Paula Jones case notwithstanding. I will remain focused on the hypocrisy of the feminists, who view Anita Hill as precious to the cause, but who disregard

is a health hazard.

- **The odor of baking bread.** The yeast police at the EPA has determined that the aroma wafting from your local bakery is a pollutant.

- **Coca-Cola** is considered dangerous by Sen. Patrick Leahy, who wants it banned from American schools.

- **Rainwater runoff.** The EPA claims rainwater becomes polluted as it runs off the roofs of buildings. So businesses must spend huge amounts of money to comply with new regulations to protect us.

The bottom line is — in order to be safe enough to satisfy liberals, don't eat or touch or smell anything. And for goodness sake, don't go outside!

Paula Jones. Still, let me suggest to those who want to "get the President" with this issue: focus on what's really important. Mr. Clinton is succeeding in moving the country to the left. He's getting his agenda passed. With the House and Senate up for grabs in 1994, it would be wise for those in the opposition — the Republicans — to focus on telling people what they stand for. What their core beliefs are. Why people should vote for them. Folks, you can't make yourself a saint on another man's sins. The Paula Jones case is in court where it belongs. Now is the time to pay attention to Clinton's policies.

MALES — WHAT A WASTE

I thought it was a joke. Then I remembered that *The New York Times* takes itself much too seriously to attempt humor. It reports that scientists are perplexed because they can't explain why the great majority of species on earth reproduce sexually. Where did the male come from, the paper of record asks, "and why doesn't he just go away?" According to the article, it would be a far more sensible arrangement if females were in charge of the whole reproductive cycle. They could simply make copies of their eggs or manufacture sperm "in-house." Then females wouldn't be forced to rely on males. Sex is a raw deal for females, if you believe these scientists, because her offspring only gets half her genes. It's a major sacrifice. And it's dangerous. "The mating ritual itself is often time-consuming, complicated, and risky," says *The Times*. But that's not all. "To top it off — oh, injustice! — the male typically makes a swift postcoital exit, leaving the female to rear her offspring alone." Wham, bam, thank you ma'am. Why, the ingrates. Then again, what would you expect from males? More to the point, what would you expect from a bunch of scientists who obviously have too much time and taxpayer funding on their hands!

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Folks, as hard as it may be to believe, the limits of feminist absurdity are being tested. Erin McKenna, a professolette at Pacific Lutheran University, presents a new theory of men and meat. McKenna says the power behind what she calls a male-dominated society that controls and oppresses women is ... meat. Meat. As in steak, hamburger, and pork chops. In a recent lecture, McKenna used two books — *The Sexual Politics of Meat*, by Carol Adams, and *The Sexual Contract*, by Carole Pateman — to advance the argument that meat eating and male dominance are interconnected.

McKenna claims that slaughtering animals for meat parallels the situation of women.

Animals lose their individuality, are confined, beaten, fed unnatural diets, and consumed. So, says McKenna, are women. Symbolically speaking, of course. Today's men use pornography, prostitution, rape, unrecognized domestic labor (housework), lower wages, and sexual harassment to "consume" women.

After all, says the professolette, meat eating is considered "manly," while women are identified with vegetables. According to the professor, "women who eat meat are then implicated in their own oppression."

Folks, if you're feeling helpless and weak trying to follow this baloney, I have some advice: order yourself a nice thick, juicy steak — and get your power back!

NOT MY FAULT

In case you missed President Clinton's global town hall on CNN, when reporters from all over the world asked him foreign policy questions, this about sums it up:

"*Mr. President, why did you vacillate so much on Bosnia?*"

"I did not! I DID NOT! The buck never got here. It was all NATO's fault. They wouldn't agree with me. Besides, I inherited this mess!"

"*Mr. President, why isn't my African country getting more foreign aid?*"

"It's the American people's fault! They want

a lower deficit and so I can't send you any more money. It's not my fault!"

"*Mr. President, is the press too critical of your foreign policy?*"

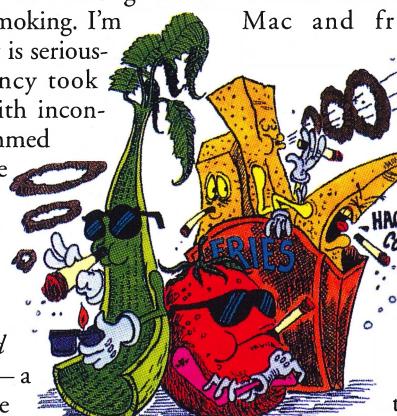
"I'm doin' the best I can. Even JFK said being President is hard. You people expect too much, just like that reporter who asked me about Bosnia. Heck, I'm workin' hard. It's tough to get the U.N., NATO, and our allies to do what I want. It's not my fault!"

Folks, let me remind you: when it comes to America's foreign policy, answers like "I'm really trying" just don't cut it.

NICOTINE VEGGIES

For weeks I've been talking about the doom and gloom coming from the tobacco gestapo. The EPA claims second-hand smoke kills 23,000 people a year. Bunk! Don't get me wrong — I'm not defending smoking. I'm saying the EPA report is seriously flawed. The agency took dozens of studies with inconclusive data and summed them up with the conclusion it wanted. Bad science, pure and simple.

Well, here's more information from *The New England Journal of Medicine* — a discussion of nicotine found in the tissues of non-smokers. "See, Rush? More evidence of second-hand smoke permeating the population." Not so fast! *The Journal* provides evidence that the nicotine doesn't come from cigarettes. It comes from ... vegetables. Like potatoes,



tomatoes, and eggplant. In fact, one study found that "as little as one-third of an ounce of eggplant would provide the same nicotine as spending three hours in a room with minimal tobacco smoke." And if you've ordered a Big Mac and fries at a smoke-free

McDonald's, you don't escape. Five ounces of potatoes or eight and a half ounces of tomatoes also provide a healthy dose of nicotine.

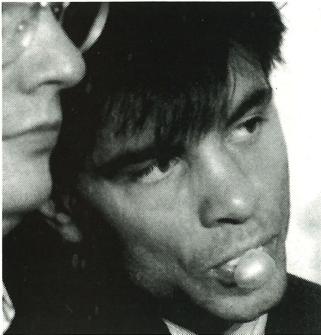
So what now?

Are we going to see Congress interrogating the CEOs of McDonald's or Burger King? Will the EPA shut down your grocery store's fresh vegetable aisle? And the big question. How long before the order comes from the West Wing of the White House that french fries have been banned? Hmmm?

ILLUSTRATION BY BOB LANG FOR THE LIMBAUGH LETTER

66 Stupid Quotes

Folks, I don't make this stuff up



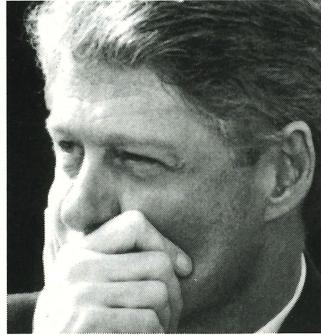
AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

"I've never been called arrogant in my life before. I find that the most astonishing charge, and I think it's very sad."

— HILLARY CLINTON, QUOTED IN *VANITY FAIR*
Astonishing!

"I personally do not believe that this level of paranoid, conspiracy-driven investigation is appropriate — of anybody in public life, not just me. It is just *absurd*. If you take historical precedent, no president has ever had any of his activities before he became president investigated like this."

— HILLARY CLINTON, QUOTED IN *VANITY FAIR*
If you take historical precedent, no president has ever had any of his (or his wife's) activities before he became president warrant investigation like this.

"We are not free if we have to live in terror of disease and accidents stalking ourselves or our families."

— HILLARY CLINTON IN COMMENCEMENT SPEECH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*
What's stalking us, Mrs. Clinton, is your health care plan.

"That's not funny."

— GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, WHEN LEON PANETTA SAID ABOUT A GROUP OF VISITING CHILDREN: "I THOUGHT THEY WERE THE NEW WHITE HOUSE STAFFERS," QUOTED IN *NEWSWEEK*
Those were the foreign policy analysts.

"It's a little, little gun, it's not an assault weapon."

— FLORIDA GOV. LAWTON CHILES, WHO SUPPORTS A NATIONWIDE BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS, WHEN A REPORTER DISCOVERED HE OWNED A RUGER MINI 14, PROHIBITED UNDER PROPOSALS BEING CONSIDERED BY CONGRESS, QUOTED IN *THE TAMPA TRIBUNE*
It's a little, little liberal hypocrisy.

"Now the fighting in Bosnia continues; the fighting in Haiti continues. I continue to try to look for new solutions. If we look for new solutions when old solutions don't work, does that mean we don't have a coherent foreign policy? I don't think so."

— BILL CLINTON, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*

You may not think so, Mr. President: I leave it to my readers to judge for themselves:

"But to say that we don't have a clear policy which says our first priority is the safety and security of the American people, in that context we need to continue the work that we are doing with Russia to de-nuclearize the other former republics — the republics of the former Soviet Union — and to reduce the nuclear threat, and we are doing that — that we then have a serious issue in terms of maintaining our security commitments in the Asian-Pacific region and dealing with the Korean issue — we are doing that, and we have done it, I think, with remarkable consistency in the face of attempts — rhetorical attempts by others to try to tilt the balance one way or the other."

— BILL CLINTON, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*
Crystal clear.

"An employer mandate is a way to fudge it.

The virtue of an employer mandate is twofold: One, it does build on the system we have ... And two, it also has the added virtue from a political point of view that you can make workers think the company pays when economists are almost certain that workers pay the bulk of it."

— UWE REINHARDT, HEALTH ECONOMIST AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, QUOTED IN *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*

Now you know — the Clintons are fudging you in their health care plan.

"It's like dancing with a bear. You can't get tired and sit down ... I've been out dancing with him for a long time. And I'm constantly looking for new partners to help wear him down."

— JOYCELYN ELDERS, ON THE COUNTRY'S EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE PROBLEMS AS SHE SEES

THEM, QUOTED IN *THE SEATTLE TIMES*

Could it be that Dr. Elders has overdone her bear dancing?

"There are a great many people talking very seriously about her [Hillary] succeeding him. Their staff will say, 'We have to do it this way and that way and then we'll be here at least 12 years.' It's not just the staff — friends, Democrats, people out across the country think it is a very viable plan of action."

— BETSEY WRIGHT, FORMER CHIEF-OF-STAFF TO GOV. BILL CLINTON, QUOTED IN

THE NEW YORKER
Is this news to anybody?

"...It appears that even if Jones is telling the truth, Clinton behaved like a pig, not a law-breaker."

— BARBARA T. ROESSNER, IN *THE HARTFORD COURANT*
An interesting defense.

"Just because you're a feminist doesn't mean you have to believe every woman."

Innocence should still be a defense. I don't think women lie about sex abuse any more than men do about any other crime, but that doesn't mean there aren't some women out there who do lie, and men need to be protected against them. I don't believe Paula Jones.... Justice doesn't mean burning every man at the stake for indiscretions large and small."

— SUSAN ESTRICH, ANITA HILL CHAMPION, IN *USA TODAY*

And that's the long and short of it — when the man at the stake is a liberal Democrat.

Congress News

Reaching Their Hands into Your Back Pockets

My friends, something amazing is happening in Congress. In election after election, Republicans are...

Running Against Clinton — And Winning

Here's what President Clinton said on May 3, 1994: "You got to understand in the rural South where you've got Rush Limbaugh and all this right-wing extremist media just pouring venom at us every day and nothing to counter that, we need an election to get the facts out. So, I really, I welcome the election. When the American people find out the truth, they are going to support people who didn't say 'no' every time."

Where did the President say this? In Atlanta. The South! Talk about insulting your audience. Okay, fine. Let's see if Clinton's analysis of the educational powers of elections panned out. Ten days after Bill Clinton's tirade, a special election was held in Oklahoma's sixth Congressional district. Lo and behold, Dan Webber, the Democrat, had his clock cleaned by Frank Lucas, a conservative Republican.

After 40 years of Democrats controlling Congress, and after 18 months of Democrats controlling the White House, voters are bailing out. They're walking — no, running — away from the ruling party. The spin doctors at the White House didn't describe it that way, of course. They said the Oklahoma race was just, well, you know, a fluke, an aberration, a cosmic glitch. Well, let's take a look at the record. For two weeks after the Oklahoma race, the following ad popped up on TV screens throughout Kentucky's second Congressional district:

"It seems like all professional politicians are the same," said the announcer. Then — through the miracle of computer graphics — the face of Joe Prather, a Kentucky Democrat candidate for Congress, slowly transformed into the face of the President. Prather morphed into Clinton. "In Frankfort, Joe Prather votes to increase taxes and fees over 40 times. Bill Clinton passes the largest tax increase in history," continued the announcer, as the ad compared their records of taxes and scandals. Then Clinton morphed back into Prather.

"If you like Bill Clinton, you'll love Joe Prather. Kentucky doesn't need another professional politician. Kentucky doesn't need Joe Prather. Send Ron Lewis to Congress. Ron Lewis — he's one of us."

How did Prather respond? Rather than defend the President, the leader of his party, the titular head of modern liberalism, Prather cut and ran — airing ads distancing himself from Clinton.

The text on screen declared, "Joe Prather is a conservative." I'm not making this up, folks! Then the announcer asked, "Why is Ron Lewis smearing Joe Prather with vicious falsehoods? The facts: Joe Prather is a conservative, as his support for a line-item veto and balanced budget amendment shows. Joe Prather — the clear-cut choice against increasing taxes." The ad wound up with the line: "Joe

Prather. He's *really* one of us." Pitiful.

By making the election a referendum on Bill Clinton's record, Ron Lewis, owner of a religious bookstore, trounced his Democratic rival, 55 percent to 45 percent. And this was a district in "the rural South"! With five registered Democrats for every one Republican. Held by Democrats for 129 years.

Believe me, Democratic pollsters know full well that Clinton is a millstone around the neck of Democrats. Add to all of the President's baggage the corruption of Congress — note Danny Rostenkowski's 17-count indictment on everything from mail fraud and embezzling public funds to scamming the House Post Office and tampering with federal witnesses — and you have a ripe opportunity for the opposition at the ballot box in November.

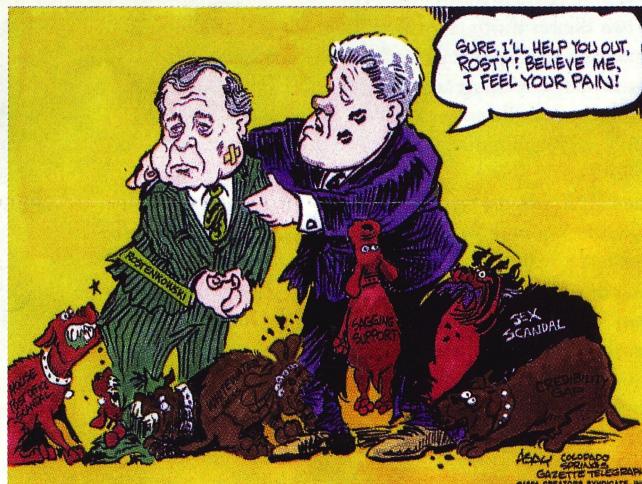
Republicans have actually won *every single major election* held since Bill Clinton was elected. Paul Coverdale won an open Senate seat in Georgia, and Kay Bailey Hutchinson won the Lloyd Bentsen seat in Texas. Richard Riordan won the mayor's race in Los Angeles, and Rudy Giuliani won the mayor's race in New York City. Christine Todd Whitman won the governor's race in New Jersey, and George Allen won the governor's race in Virginia.

Are you noticing a pattern here? Believe me, Democrats can see it as well as you can. One or two of the Democratic defeats might have been

explained away as the result of inadequate funding or a lackluster candidate. But taken together, these elections portend the rumblings of a potential dramatic shift in the balance of power in Washington.

Republicans need a net of forty seats to recapture the House of Representatives outright. But even half that number would actually give them ideological control — with conservative Southern Democrats. And Republican chances look good. At least 130 Democratic seats in the House are vulnerable this November. Meanwhile, 30 House Republicans are running totally unopposed by Democrats, including nine in Florida alone. Some analysts are convinced that Republicans could actually capture enough seats in the Senate to gain numerical control.

So, as we approach the 1994 mid-term elections, Republicans have already demonstrated what they need to win: saddle their opponents with the record of Bill Clinton. Huge tax increases, new spending, onerous new regulations, foreign policy flip-flops, the nightmare of a health care plan, sexual harassment charges, Whitewater, chaos in the White House. Let's face it, this is the stuff candidates would much rather run *from* than run *on*. If the Republicans are smart, that's just what they'll continue to make their opponents do. ■



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THE ARKANSAS FILE

Since my February issue, when I outlined the basic information from my bulging Whitewater file, a lot of whitewater has gone over the dam. Webster Hubbell and Bernard Nussbaum have resigned. Ten Clinton aides have been subpoenaed by special counsel Robert B. Fiske, Jr. And much more has been disclosed about the Clintons' intriguing financial deals. Here's a sampling of related stories:

New Mexico Resort — According to *The Albuquerque Journal* and *The Washington Times*, Fiske is investigating a New Mexico ski resort once owned by Dan R. Lasater, a longtime pal of President Clinton. On May 8 the *Journal* reported Fiske's interest in Lasater's Angel Fire resort. On May 12 the *Times* said Fiske is trying to determine whether Lasater was a source of money illegally routed to Clinton's 1984 gubernatorial campaign. A big Clinton contributor and an underwriter of Arkansas bond issues, Lasater had also provided Roger Clinton with a job — and money for drug debts. Lasater also hosted lavish parties, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, leading to his conviction and jailing on cocaine charges.

Several months ago, *The Chicago Tribune* reported two cases in which the Rose Law firm — specifically, Vince Foster and Hillary Clinton — represented government regulators in suits against Lasater's Little Rock bond firm. The suits arose out of the failure of two Illinois thrifts, First American of Oak Brook and Home Federal of Centralia, and alleged that the Lasater firm lost the thrifts' money in unauthorized trades, sticking taxpayers with the tab. The Home Federal case, filed at \$4.6 million, was settled for \$250,000; the First American case, filed at \$3.3 million, was settled for \$200,000. Lasater was in prison at the time of settlement, with his business being managed by Patsy Thomasson, one of the three White House aides who visited Foster's office the night of his death.

Cellular Phones — During the 80s, Hillary Clinton invested \$2000 in a cellular franchise application, reaping a \$46,000 profit in only four years. "There is no mystery about the nature of this sweetheart deal," writes columnist Michael Kinsley. "The profit derived from the fact that successful applicants were given a tremendously valuable franchise for free. And Hillary Clinton's ability to get in on this gravy train derived from the fact that she was a prominent lawyer, a woman, and married to the governor." The FCC awarded these goodies by lottery, but Hillary's group came in second. Then, interestingly, the winning group's claim was threatened by a lawsuit. So the winners sold the franchise to Hillary's group at a discount. Hillary's group turned around and sold it at full value to McCaw, the cellular giant. Kinsley points out that all this is perfectly legal "and everybody does it." No big deal, he says. True enough — except that Hillary spent an entire presidential campaign decrying "greed." Like this: "The 1980s were about acquiring — acquiring wealth, power, privilege."

Hillary also got into a Colorado oil-drilling partnership as a tax shelter, according to *The Los Angeles Times*, invested in a South African diamond mine while apartheid was still in force, and joined a limited partnership that took advantage of the tax laws to turn her firm's *building* into a tax shelter. Though she claimed she found commodities trading so "stressful" she pulled out for good in 1980, tax records show that as late as 1987

she was trading in stock index futures as much as \$150,000 in a single day.

Whitewater land

deal — According to Rep. Jim Leach, "Congress and the executive are employing closed-society techniques to resist full disclosure of an embarrassing circumstance with unfortunate, precedent-setting ramifications." In mid-May, Leach filed suit to force the RTC and the Office of Thrift Supervision to hand over documents related to Madison Guaranty. Leach said that the documents were expected to disclose, among other information, how much money was transferred from Madison to Whitewater.

According to *The Washington Times*, the 1992 Clinton campaign

secretly documented but hid from public exposure "hundreds of thousands of dollars" in transfers of funds between Madison and Whitewater. The records show, reports *The Times*, substantial sums passing back and forth between Madison and Whitewater — both now under federal investigation. This runs contrary, points out the paper, to the explanations given by the president and the First Lady.

The Times says two former Clinton campaign workers say efforts were made to collect, copy, and categorize Whitewater-Madison documents after *The New York Times* story about Whitewater on March 8, 1992. A third former Clinton campaign official says: "The fear generated by Whitewater inquiries during the campaign ... suggests there is far more than meets the eye." The docu-





ments were moved from the governor's mansion to Clinton campaign headquarters in Little Rock and then, the official said, "to destinations unknown."

Records also show that Hillary was not "passive" in the Whitewater operation, as the White

House
claimed:

At least 10 checks written by

lot owners in 1989-90 as

payment on their accounts were made out to Whitewater "c/o Hillary Clinton"; she was listed as the seller when a Whitewater lot was sold to a Nevada couple for \$16,500 on March 15, 1990; Whitewater's federal corporate income tax returns (belatedly prepared in 1990) show that for three years beginning in the 1986 tax year, the company's mailing address changed to that of the Rose Law firm.

Nursing Homes —

According to *The Sunday Times* of London, Hillary Clinton benefitted from a "shady deal in old people's homes." As a senior partner in the Rose Law firm, which oversaw the transaction, the paper reports, Hillary received thousands of dollars in legal fees.

This is how the scheme worked. The Iowa nursing homes were owned by Beverly Enterprises, controlled by the Stephens family, one of the most powerful banking families in Little Rock (and a Clinton financial backer). William Kennedy, now a top White House aide, was directly involved in the deal, which "artificially inflated the price of 45 nursing homes for sale." In a single day the value of the homes leaped from \$47 million to \$92 million through a series of sales to shell companies, netting Rose Law's clients instant profits of about \$10 million and giving Rose up to \$500,000 in fees. This saddled the new owner,

Mercy Health Initiatives, with millions of dollars of debt. So the cost of caring for many elderly patients rose by as much as 14 percent. Hillary, who condemned "price gouging" and "profiteering" by pharmaceutical companies, directly profited from the deal by as much as \$15,000. According to

The Sunday Times, Iowa state Judge Gene Needles condemned the transaction as "unconscionable." Says Rep. Jim Leach: "What appears self-evident is that the nursing home sales increased the cost of health care."

Tax Returns —

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the Clintons paid \$14,615 in back federal and state taxes and interest in April after failing to report a \$6,498 capital gain in the family's 1980 tax return. David Kendall, the president's personal attorney, said the capital gain resulted from commodities trading by Mrs. Clinton with Stephens Inc. (remember that name, folks). Kendall said the Clintons weren't required to pay because the statute of limitations had expired, but made the payments voluntarily. The \$6,498 gain was "overlooked," officials said. Some related items:

According to *Forbes Media Critic*, the Clintons used some of the cattle futures profits to pre-pay interest on their Whitewater loan in 1978 and 1979, thus reducing their income taxes.

The Washington Post reports that Bill Clinton got a \$20,000 loan from McDougal's bank in Kingston, Ark. with little more than his signature. He says he used the money to help his mother buy a home in Hot Springs. For two years that money was included as part of what the Clintons claimed to have lost in Whitewater. Interestingly, when his interest in the \$75,000 house was transferred to his stepfather a year later, the transaction was not mentioned on the Clintons' tax returns, even though a sale of a capital asset such as real estate should be accounted for under IRS regulations. "I had genuinely forgotten," said Clinton. Shazaam! Land records show that no cash changed hands when Clinton's share of the home was transferred to Richard W. Kelley on Feb. 8, 1982. No record of the sale appears on the Clintons' 1981 or 1982 tax returns, and according to accountants, it should have. The loan to his mother was one of four — totalling \$250,000 — that Bill and Hillary Clinton secured from Arkansas banks between 1978 and 1981 with little documentation. Some of the banks have been subpoenaed as part of the Whitewater investigation by special counsel Fiske.

Cattle Futures —

New York Times reporter Jeff Gerth broke the story of Mrs. Clinton's enormously profitable cattle trades on March 18, 1994. During 11 months in 1978 and 1979, assisted by James Blair, general counsel for Tyson Foods (a major Arkansas employer), Hillary turned a \$1000 investment into almost \$100,000. At the end of May, the White House released additional records confirming that Mrs. Clinton engaged in high-risk overnight trades without putting up enough money to cover possible losses.

Chicago Mercantile Exchange records show, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, that for her initial transaction on Oct. 11, 1978 (in which she parlayed a \$1000 investment into a \$5300 profit), Mrs. Clinton would have had to put up \$12,000 if her broker, Ray E. Friedman and Co. (Refco), had followed the Merc's margin rules at the time. "There was insufficient margin for this transaction," said Leo Melamed, former Merc chairman. According to *The Washington Post*, the new records raise the possibility that some of her profits — as much as \$40,000 — came from larger trades ordered by someone else and then shifted to her account. ■

Whatever Happened to Punishment?

continued from page 4

agree: Those who murder, rape, rob, deal drugs, assault, should be arrested, prosecuted and punished. Felons should be imprisoned. No plea bargaining, no parole. Those with multiple convictions should receive long prison sentences. Dangerous felons should receive life sentences. And murderers should get death.

But for more than thirty years, the will of the people — such firmly held, commonsense ideas — has been thwarted by the elite. These are the people who believe we must "move beyond" the sort of "knee-jerk" popular ideas on justice that stoop to that barbaric approach called punishment.

There is a reason for that. Punishment requires something anathema to liberalism: a moral certitude, and a moral authority. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas said recently: "An effective criminal justice system, one that holds people accountable for harmful conduct, simply cannot be sustained under conditions where there are boundless excuses for violent behavior and no moral authority for the state to punish." This statement was deemed so remarkable that it made the newswires.

Here we have the crux of the matter. The old idea, that the law is the great *moral* teacher, cannot be tolerated by the left. If liberals acknowledge that there is right and wrong, that some behavior is bad, that some people freely choose evil and must be held accountable, that moral precepts against violent behavior not only can be legislated (thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not kill) but must be enforced, liberalism simply disappears.

In order to punish, society must be certain of right and wrong; it must believe that those who obey the law deserve protection and those who break the law deserve to lose their freedom. Punishment requires the use of force — which the left cannot stomach. (Remember their hysterics when Michael Fay was caned?) What do we have when society won't use force, even to protect itself? Force is ceded to the felon. *He* has no reluctance to inflict pain, and suffering, and death on his victims.

To punish the evil men do is in fact to affirm the value of the innocent. This profound idea is understood instinctively by millions of ordinary Americans. It is only the elite who do not see it — and their

blindness has unleashed on this country a holocaust of violence.

So we come to the true victims, victims of crime, the American dead and the broken hearts of the loved ones left behind, the sad, shameful fallout of the left's inability to choose between good and evil.

I want to quote from a statement read in court by Ed Smith of Seaford, Long Island, whose pregnant wife was killed in the Trade Center bombing:

In the autumn of 1992, my wife, Monica Smith purchased a pregnancy test. The test came back positive. Our lives and marriage would now have everything we wanted.

I never felt so close to another human being. We slept in each other's arms as if we were one person. We learned we would have a boy. We named our son Eddie. From then on I would come home at night and sing to our baby. We visited the doctor together and listened to the baby's heart. Near the end of February, just a few months before Eddie was due, we went shopping for baby furniture. Then came Feb. 26, 1993. A fellow employee walked into a meeting and said there was a fire at the World Trade Center. I immediately called Monica's office. There was no answer and there would never be an answer.

At 11 p.m., a friend called the New York City morgue and the worst part of my life started. I was told that I should come right away. Nobody could have prepared me for the feelings I was experiencing. I had lost my wife, my best friend, and my son. I would never again get the chance to

tell Monica how much I loved her. We would never get to hear Eddie say "mommy," "daddy," "love." We would never see Eddie walk or go to school. We lost all this.

First, to the judge. We ask that you remember the crimes committed were not abstractions. As you deliver sentence, we ask that you remember that these crimes are not, in the end, about the volumes of evidence that have brought us to this day. We, who have buried our dead without a chance to lay a comforting hand on their heads, ask that you remember this was an act of murder. To those who committed this act, those in this courtroom, and those around the world, remember this day. And whether you live out your days in a Federal penitentiary or on the run, remember these names.

They will follow you always: Robert Kirkpatrick, William Macko, Stephen Knapp, John DiGiovanni, Wilfredo Mercado, Monica Rodriguez Smith, daughter, wife, expectant mother, best friend, born 1959, died Feb. 26, 1993.

The judge in this case heard the voice of the victim. And, though he explained that the law did not permit a life sentence, he had the moral certitude necessary to do even more; he imposed what the news report acknowledged was "extraordinary": real punishment on killers.

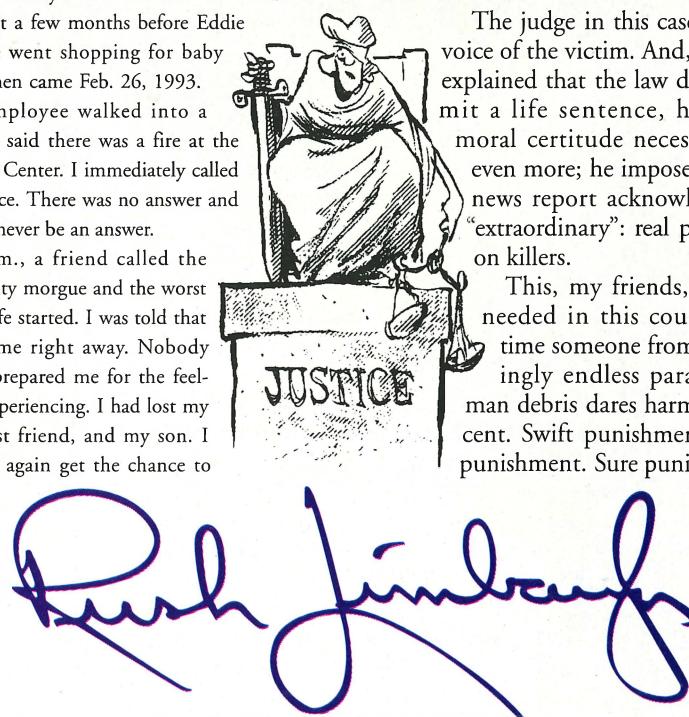
This, my friends, is what is needed in this country every time someone from the seemingly endless parade of human debris dares harm the innocent. Swift punishment. Certain punishment. Sure punishment.

ILLUSTRATION BY CLYDE WELLS

The Decline in Expected Punishment for All Serious Crimes

Year	Expected Time in Prison
1950	24 days
1954	22.5 days
1964	12.1 days
1974	5.5 days
1984	7.7 days
1988	8.5 days

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS



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